Please replace the abstract on page 15 with the following abstract:

A method and apparatus for reducing soft errors ~~is disclosed. In some embodiments the method comprises~~ <u>in which the method includes</u>: assigning a plurality of nodes within a storage circuit to a predetermined state; evaluating a plurality of signals coupled to the storage circuit, where evaluating the plurality of signals enables a first node to change from its predetermined state ~~and enables a second node to be more susceptible to perturbations~~; and <u>actively</u> maintaining ~~the~~ <u>a</u> second node in its predetermined state ~~for a predetermined period of time~~, where <u>actively</u> maintaining the predetermined state reduces the storage circuit's susceptibility to soft errors.